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A Day for Thanks.

On this day, when by ancient custom and under official proclamation the people of the United States give thanks to Divine Providence for the blessings vouchsafed to them in the passing year, our thoughts will naturally and inevitably turn to our deliverance and the deliverance of the world from the blight of war, with its suffering among the soldiers, its perils on the seas and its anxieties in the thousands of homes whose men went forth to protect their country from the barbarism that menaced all mankind. In that struggle right has triumphed over might and our liberty has been made secure.

A year ago we looked forward to the possibility of a military contest prolonged for years; the knowledge that it had ended, and ended in glorious triumph for the arms of righteousness, may obscure in our minds certain factors that contributed to the victory that has been won.

America has been singularly fortunate in the advantages it has enjoyed in the last year. The harvests have been abundant; no calamity has impaired the productivity of our soil. Upon the crops depended the outcome of the war in greater measure than most of us realized. Had 1918 been a year of shortage, had our store of provisions been less ample, suffering might have become acute among the civilians in allied countries. The effect of this on the armies would have been disastrous. But our crops did not fail, and we were able out of our abundance to mitigate the lot of those whose fate was linked inseparably with ours.

The severe weather of the winter of 1917-18 imposed no widespread or enduring injury upon us. The affliction of disease that brought sorrow to many thousands of homes has passed its most destructive stage. The inconveniences growing out of fulfillment of our obligation to feed other peoples have constituted no real hardship and have been easily borne. There has been a splendid exhibition of the unity of purpose that constitutes our national strength, a unity the existence of which was frequently denied in the past, but which cannot now be questioned.

We may properly give thanks because the restrictions necessarily imposed to facilitate the conduct of the war in no wise impaired the political independence of the American electorate. And their willing submission to essential emergency measures did not weaken in any way the fibre of their political habit.

High among those things for which we should give thanks to-day is the vindication of our system of government and the political institutions we have erected to render potent the will of a free nation. It has been proved that the most complete freedom compatible with orderly administration under the rule of laws enacted by the representatives of the people does not rob the body politic of the power to act in emergency, to arm itself for the public defence or to strike with decision and force for the public well-being. The Government, conducted in accordance with the Constitution, utilizing the authority with which it has been clothed, has proved equal to the heaviest tasks. The correctness of the philosophy on which it rests, the practicability of the machinery adopted to achieve its objects and the solidity of its institutions have been demonstrated under the strain of a terrible conflict, and for this Americans have another cause for sincere thanksgiving.

The South American Territorial Dispute.

A "lost province" question, which has disturbed South American politics for the last thirty years, comes up now as an acute issue that has already led to menacing outbreaks among Chileans and Peruvians. The territory in controversy is the rich coast land between Peru and Chile, and the dispute has apparently reached the stage where it calls for a resort to mediation or to a renewal of the war between Chile on one side and Peru and Bolivia on the other side.

This territorial dispute, which bears in its main features a similarity to some of the older European national and racial contentions, grew

out of the acquisition by Chile of the district of Tarapaca and the territories of Africa and Tacna. In a war that lasted from 1879 until 1883 Chile came out victorious and Peru exhausted and bankrupt. As a condition of peace Chile exacted Tarapaca in perpetuity, but agreed to hold Africa and Tacna only for a period of ten years, at the end of which time the future disposition of the territories was to be left to a vote of the people. It was the first acquisition of territory on the continent purely by military conquest. Chile at the end of the ten years refused either to return these territories or to submit to the result of a plebiscite.

The territory was a highly productive mineral region, especially rich in nitrate. Señor Don F. A. Pizarro, formerly Peruvian Minister to the United States, says that from the nitrates alone Chile in the last thirty-eight years has collected annually about \$80,000,000. Chile, according to the statement of Bolivian officials, has also failed to fulfill her agreement to Bolivia, which nation was to have a port on the Pacific coast.

Chile is unquestionably better prepared in case of war than either Peru or Bolivia. She has been gradually increasing her navy, and she has an army which is regarded as one of the most thoroughly trained and disciplined in South America. The army was largely built up by German officers, a circumstance that had much to do with making Chile, especially early in the war, a centre of German influence and propaganda. Both Bolivia and Peru were active in repressing German propagandists and broke off diplomatic relations with Berlin soon after the United States entered the war.

What Peru and Bolivia ask is that Chile shall live up to her treaty agreement and that a peaceful adjustment of the matter may be effected. The United States has long desired a settlement of this dispute; because while it exists there will be not only danger of a clash between the original States to the controversy, but that neighboring South American nations may become involved.

Right Spending in War: Wrong Spending Now.

While Congress is preparing to compel a cut in war expenditures, there is given out in Washington a list of some of the reserve stocks of army supplies in the hands of the War Department. They are colossal. The amount of money locked up in them is fabulous; but they are not an indictment of those who piled them on mountains high. Let us pick from that list a few of the items.

There appear some 22,500,000 trousers and breeches. At the prices paid for those articles they would amount in value to some \$157,000,000. There appear some 17,000,000 coats, cost about \$170,000,000, and 4,000,000 overcoats, cost about \$52,000,000. Also there appear some 45,000,000 pairs of drawers and the same number of undershirts, cost about \$180,000,000; upward of 10,000,000 fannel shirts, \$35,000,000; 40,000,000 pairs of stockings, \$18,000,000; 5,500,000 blankets, \$37,500,000; 23,000,000 pairs of gloves and mittens, about \$25,000,000; 11,000,000 pairs of shoes, \$66,000,000.

Now, while those items merely of clothing—and there are many others—account for nearly three-quarters of a billion of dollars, while there are on hand as well vast quantities of surplus provisions, horses, mules, fodder, etc., the purchase of horses and mules having amounted to more than \$150,000,000, no rational man is going to blame the Government for having such stupendous wealth locked up in supplies for which there is now no immediate need, no prospect of use.

On the contrary, if the Government, expecting to maintain 4,000,000 fighting men in France, had not abundantly provided for everything necessary to crush the enemy under an avalanche of man power, gun power, munition power and money power it would have been guilty to the last degree of incompetence, blither, criminal neglect of our men and our opportunity in the crisis of the nation and of the world.

It will take a long time for the million men whom we are to retalia indefinitely in the service to use up more than 22,000,000 pairs of trousers and more than 17,000,000 coats. It will take them a long time to use up 45,000,000 pairs of drawers and 45,000,000 undershirts, with another 10,000,000 fannel shirts. It will take them a long time to use up 40,000,000 pairs of stockings and even 11,000,000 pairs of shoes. Yet if there were in the reserve stocks of supplies twice the number of each of those articles that there is nobody could reasonably find a word of fault.

The same thing is true of rifles, of light guns and heavy guns, of high explosives and low explosives, of every single war tool that was necessary as long as we were fighting, and they had to be provided not only for the present but for the future.

But when, with peace here, we have all these hundreds of thousands of tons of surplus supplies; when there is locked up in them, tight as a drum, a treasure of billions of dollars; when though the shoes and the clothes may some day be worn and the provisions may some day be consumed by peace troops or by somebody there can be no use of those war tools by anybody, it is the wildest squander of public money ever dreamed of for bureaus of this Government to go on spending and spending to pile up more and more of what will never be used, though the already overburdened back of the taxpayer is broken to pay the bills for it.

The war spenders are still keeping industrial machinery at work making

munitions, making special steel for weapons, making armor plate, making motors for aircraft. They are wasting the material that goes into the things. They are wasting the coal that supplies the power for making them. They are wasting the labor. They are wasting the taxpayers' money. Though the war is ended, though, through fortune, we are hugely overstocked with everything, they are still committing this economic and financial squander to the extent of hundreds and hundreds of millions of dollars.

The Congress programme to compel a halt in this war spending by withdrawing the appropriations comes none too soon. When the armistice was signed our war spending was going a pace of about \$100,000,000 a day. Since the armistice was signed there have passed already some fifteen working days. This would count at \$100,000,000 a day another billion and a half of treasure thrown into the bottomless pit. If the war spenders have cut off \$30,000,000 a day—and there is no sign that they have—there still would be left a billion of dollars gone since the war ended. Think of it! Nearly a billion more! Stop it!

Yankees Who Are Still Fighting.

There is one group of American soldiers in Europe that certainly will not be home for Christmas. These are the troops that are aiding the Allies and the decent Russians of the Archangel Government in the war against Bolshevism. It comes as a small shock, this news at intervals from the neighborhood of the Arctic Circle about the doings there of our men, for the American mind is naturally inclined to picture every Yankee as resting on his arms.

Suppose some one had predicted five, or even two, years ago that Michael Dornovitz of Holyoke, Mass., would in the autumn of 1918 win, as an American soldier, a British medal for gallant service against Russian outlaws near the shores of the White Sea. The prophet would have little honor, but these are the facts of today. Major Dornovitz and his men are evidently in for a long job, for winter has locked the Russian seas and the River and Jack Frost as well as the Bolsheviks will have to be fought until Russia's late spring arrives. As if bullets and the weather were not bad enough, our men are subjected to a bombardment of Bolshevik oratory, delivered from No Man's Land in swarthshop English.

The American soldier who has to spend the holidays in France may think he is having a hard time of it, but let him consider his brethren snowed up somewhere along the distant Dvina.

Dr. Noguchi Discovers an Anti-Serum for Yellow Fever.

The subjoined letter from Dr. L. B. Noguchi, President of the Board of Health of Guayaquil, Ecuador, to his countryman Dr. J. C. Cueva in this city, records an achievement of the utmost importance to mankind:

"DEAR FRIEND: You probably know by now that the second Yellow Fever Commission of the Rockefeller Institute, presided over by Dr. KENNELL, president of a Chicago university and a very distinguished gentleman, has been here for some time. This commission has studied carefully everything connected with the sanitation of Guayaquil and the necessary plans to carry out the important work contemplated. The commission will present to the Rockefeller Institute a report of their studies here and will await a decision of the Institute.

"Before leaving the commission visited Quito, the capital, where every courtesy was extended to them by the Government, the university, the scientific associations and the society. In Guayaquil the municipality declared them its guests and they were treated as such to the last moment. One of the members of the commission, the worldwide known Dr. NOGUCHI, is still with us, continuing his work about yellow fever.

"It is with intense pleasure that I inform you that Dr. NOGUCHI, this famous bacteriologist, has discovered the yellow fever bacteria. A few days after his arrival he was able to isolate it and to prove positively that it was the micro-organism of this disease. He injected several animals receptive to the yellow fever with this bacteria, and from them he was able to produce new cultures. Lately he has discovered a vaccine that has already made immune the horses that he has experimented with. He has vaccinated with same the regiments that must go down from the interior to Guayaquil for the national holidays.

"You may realize the importance of this great discovery for the whole of mankind. Dr. NOGUCHI deserves its fame. He is a true scientist, with a modesty that distinguishes this class. The benefits that the American continent is going to obtain from his discovery cannot be calculated, as you will understand, especially for the development and progress of all tropical countries.

"The Government and the city are going to make to him a public expression of thanks. The national Congress for the first time in history is going to confer on him the honor of a title of Doctor in Medical Science of our universities. The whole republic of Ecuador will be represented in the demonstration in his honor.

"(Signed) L. B. NOGUCHI, President, October 1."

While it has been established that yellow fever is caused by a specific virus, communicated by mosquitoes of the genus *Stegomyia*, attempts to isolate the bacteria have hitherto been unsuccessful. Dr. GORGAS's remarkable triumphs in preventing outbreaks of the disease were won by works of sanitation, the destruction of mosquito breeding places, screen-

ing, enforcing cleanliness and similar measures. Dr. NOGUCHI, according to this report, has now identified and isolated the bacteria and has produced an anti-serum which confers immunity on those who are exposed to the disease. The progress already made by him has justified the use of the serum on the troops of Ecuador, whose experiences will furnish a guide for its use among the peoples of the regions in which the disease exists.

Dr. GORGAS's methods of combating yellow fever, involving as they do high expenditure for draining, for oiling pools, for poisoning the areas treated, are impracticable for thinly settled districts on account of their cost. But if Dr. NOGUCHI's researches result in the production of a stable serum by which animals, including man, susceptible to the disease can be rendered immune, great and rich lands now unfit for human settlement will be opened up for development. The confidence Dr. NOGUCHI and the authorities of Ecuador have in his serum is shown by the high honors conferred upon him.

Dr. GORGAS will soon go to Guayaquil to take up the work of sanitation, in which he has won worldwide distinction. It is obvious that the combination of the methods devised by him to protect man from mosquitoes with the medical precautions made possible by Dr. NOGUCHI's discoveries will have a profound effect on the habitability of important areas in the tropics.

It is particularly appropriate that this discovery should have been made in Guayaquil, which has suffered severely from unhealthy conditions. These, it is interesting to learn, are now being overcome: Dr. KENDALL wrote in July a letter declaring certain sensational reports regarding conditions in the city to be without basis. The Noguchi serum will enable the work of municipal improvement now in progress to be continued on an increasingly broad plan.

Winston-Salem Gets After the Mob.

The public authorities in Winston-Salem, N. C., where a serious outbreak of mob violence occurred on November 17, have arrested a number of persons accused of participating in the riot and promise to prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law.

If the course thus initiated is vigorously pursued and the men guilty of a disgraceful assault on the peace of the community are adequately punished, the administrators of the law in the North Carolina city will not only have performed the duty imposed on them by their oath, but will have set an example that must be of the greatest assistance to every settlement, north and south, whose populations are menaced by a few lawless men given to disorder.

The outcome of this commendable action will be awaited with interest. Winston-Salem has an opportunity to undo the wrong the mob did to its good name.

In giving thanks let us not overlook the weather man. No autumn could be more perfect in its dress, its aid in the saving of coal, its general all-round pleasantness. If the weather had a conscience it would be natural to suspect that, having given us a January of atrocious cold and a midsummer week of infernal heat, it had tried to make amends at the close of the year.

Last Thanksgiving the Kaiser had Turkey. This year even Germany has a bone to pick with him.

Marshall FOCH, whom we only saw twice, at the beginning and at the end of the conference, is a stern, plain man. He did not speak a single word to us in the tone which formerly distinguished the chivalrous French nation. A member of the German armistice commission.

Perhaps even a chivalrous nation may resent the invasion of its soil, the barbaric destruction of its national monuments and the enslavement of its people.

After his first helping of turkey and cranberry sauce the small boy usually condemns the Puritans for not being more liberal in the number of their religious fast days.

The curfew ordinance which will attempt to lessen juvenile delinquency has been passed by the Board of Aldermen. Under this measure children up to 16 are prohibited from the streets after 9 P. M. unless accompanied by parent or guardian. The ordinance is limited to a year's trial. New York will have to grin and bear it as an experiment that may be worth trying. If it proves of real benefit to children and the community at large the inconvenience accruing from its strictures will be endured.

Germany should be thankful too. Imagine what her state would have been had she held out longer!

The New Liberty.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In the great settlement let us give the Philippines to the executive committee of the League of Nations as a summer capital. For the winter they may have Crocker-Land. MURRAY LEVINSKY.

TURKEY, November 27.

To Make Americans Abroad Feel at Home.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I sincerely hope, for the sake of world harmony, that the French will stop the brewing of beer on December 1.

X. Z. X.

New York, November 27.

## WHY, THIS IS IDEALISM!

A Life of Unalloyed Joy in Uplifting the People.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: I am surprised that any one after all these years of reform and uplift should remain so obtuse to what idealism is as your correspondent "Inquirer."

From those who see who possess idealism, it must be a beautiful existence; for they believe that the world was made for them, and that it is their duty to uplift the people by advocating laws to make them good. Cases have been known where idealists have become so possessed of their own importance and their benefit to mankind that they contemplated suicide if they had to do any work that would prevent them from carrying on their uplift work.

Probably one can get a better and more correct idea of idealism by studying the life and doings of the late J. Alexander Dowle and of Colonel William Jennings Bryan than by reading the utterances of professors who are only small fry in comparison with them.

Idealism is not an alleged philosophy, as philosophers are selfish and idealists are altruists and have no more qualities of selfishness than poets have of vanity. JAMES D. DREWELL, Jr.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., November 27.

A Definition to Be Remembered While Waiting for the Turkey.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: In reply to "Inquirer's" request to define idealism, I expressed desire to know more about the meaning of idealism as a metaphysical doctrine. It may be remarked that the first thing to be considered in that connection is the radical difference between the point of view of the metaphysician and that of the layman. The antecedents of his thinking and the antiquity of his outlook are different. Indeed, the metaphysician's mind invariably seeks the causes of appearances, the ultimate bases of phenomena; while the layman is satisfied with "solid objectivity" and is content to accept the temporary limitations which impose themselves.

Such radical divergences both in the sphere of interests and in that of conceptualization must necessarily mark off the mental domain of the metaphysician from that of the layman by barriers which clearly distinguish the one from the other. Primarily, then, in order that any one may justly identify himself with the consistency or verity of metaphysical conclusions, he must first assume the mental attitudes, viewpoints and intellectual tendencies of the metaphysician. In other words, there must be a complete metamorphosis of intellectual attitude; not that the layman is incapable of understanding that I could not get the second papers until after the conclusion of the war. Nevertheless my application was accepted and I even had to appear before the chief examiner in 7 Beckman street.

Last January I had to get a special permit to go fishing; my sole recreation and pleasure during the summer months—and was told to inquire whether my case came under the new law of perfect citizenship. Whereupon I called at Mr. Weiser's office in the Federal Building and was advised that my case would come up September 1st last.

Six or seven weeks later I received a notice to appear again at 7 Beckman street "with regard to a case of naturalization now pending" and was examined again.

When the day of registration was set for September 12 I was glad to think that I would be able to register as a citizen, but nothing ever happened. I am still the alien enemy, although I can pride myself with being a subscriber to the Second, Third and Fourth Liberty loans, as well as all collections which have been taken up for the good of the cause, often at the expense of my means.

I can proudly look back at the last nineteen months and state that the "sec. and papers," which will be granted to me some day, cannot make a better American of me than I have shown myself to be in the above named period.

I have often heard of a registration card being laid down to alien enemies to the latter; I have not failed to take the opportunity of becoming a citizen when same was offered to me.

Who is to be blamed? Is there any red tape in the Bureau of Naturalization? Or what else could have caused any delay that you could throw on this subject will be gratefully appreciated.

ALLEN EXEMT.

New York, November 27.

IN MR. WILSON'S ABSENCE.

He Might Let Colonel Roosevelt Help Him Out.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: For the period of his absence perhaps he might like to invite ex-President Roosevelt to assume the real duties of his office, or inasmuch as matters of great importance that "mature every hour" prevent the President taking time even to come to New York to help celebrate Britain's Day, and to regulate the use by absenting himself from the peace table and appoint a substitute.

Will it be James Ham Lewis or Postmaster Burleson?

New York, November 27. G. L. C.

"Metz," Please.

Now that the ancient city of Metz has been restored to France largely through the immediate efforts of our troops it may be well for us to speak its name as do the French. That, according to the dictionary of the good Pierre Larousse is Metz, and the circumflex accent may be ignored. The same high authority gives the name of the inhabitants of Metz as Mesians.

As aid to memory we venture to submit an ante bellum and a post bellum rhyme illustrating respectively the German and the French pronunciation. The first we recollect in an old time collection of Limericks:

"There was an old woman of Metz  
Who was wholly devoted to Metz;  
Three dogs, very tall;  
Three cats, rather small,  
With which she would walk about Metz."

spiritualism and at times something of other which is opposed to Philistinism and are confirmed and strengthened in this view by ordinary materialism. The words "idealism" and "realism" are not anything and everything, but have their fixed philosophical meaning. Those who mean something else should employ another word. The opposition of idealism and realism concerns the known, the object, while that between spiritualism and materialism concerns the knowing, the subject. (Most ignorant muddlers confound idealism and spiritualism.)

Schopenhauer deduces as follows: The absolute real or the thing in itself can never be given us directly from without, in the present moment, since it is inevitably in the nature of the latter only to furnish the ideal; while on the contrary, since we ourselves are indubitably real, the knowledge of the real must in some way or other be derivable from within our own nature. And in fact it here appears, in an immediate manner in consciousness.

Since the perceivable world is observed by the real it cannot exist without the real. Ideals therefore existing in the perceivable world originate in the real. Spiritualism teaches the contrary. E. A. KUNAS.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., November 27.

AMERICANS.

It Is the Title Worn by a Great and Generous People.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: While musing this morning on the war, the Red Cross and other various matters I read of in THE SUN, my thoughts reverted to a letter which appeared in your columns a few days ago questioning our right to the name "Americans."

Was not our glorious country discovered by Christopher Columbus, who died a martyr for its sake? Were not its lovely lands and waters, mountains and valleys named after American Vespucius, Columbus's follower to our shores?

It is well, I think, to remind any one who would assert that the noble heroes who fought and died for our glorious country, the patriots and citizens who have made it what it is, their mothers, wives and daughters are not Americans because "Indian" blood does not flow in their veins, that although the Indian was native here before us, we take nothing from him in calling ourselves American, for the name American dates back only to the white man.

American is the name—the name honored by the wide world!

America, the hospitable home for all! America, the land of liberty and democracy, the land of the fearless and the home of the free. H. E. F.

FLUSHING, November 27.

WAIT TILL THE WAR ENDS.

An Alien Enemy of Good Disposition to the United States.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: A year ago last month I applied for final citizenship, and being an alien enemy was given to understand that I could not get the second papers until after the conclusion of the war. Nevertheless my application was accepted and I even had to appear before the chief examiner in 7 Beckman street.

Last January I had to get a special permit to go fishing; my sole recreation and pleasure during the summer months—and was told to inquire whether my case came under the new law of perfect citizenship. Whereupon I called at Mr. Weiser's office in the Federal Building and was advised that my case would come up September 1st last.

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## NEW REVENUE BILL

READY BY TUESDAY

Republicans to Oppose It in

Hope of Forcing Extra Session of Congress.</